

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Takeshi SAKAMOTO et al.

Group Art Unit: 1794

Application No.:

10/594,437

Examiner:

G. HARRIS

Filed: December 12, 2006

Docket No.:

129510

For:

RARE EARTH MAGNET, METHOD FOR PRODUCING SAME AND METHOD

FOR PRODUCING MULTILAYER BODY

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the August 28, 2009 Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-17, with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the wrong set of claims were examined. Specifically, the preliminary amendment filed September 26, 2006 that included claims 1-30 were examined. Instead, the preliminary amendment filed November 27, 2006 that included claims 1-51 should have been examined. Consequently, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner <u>must</u> examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 28, 2009

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